

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-03 H-02 SS-15 DODE-00 NSC-05

SSO-00 NSCE-00 /038 W

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O P 171232Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8703

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN IMMEDIATE

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG IMMEDIATE

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON IMMEDIATE

USDEL MC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

USMISSION USBERLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 04267

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP, XG, GW

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL VISIT TO EUROPE

REF: STATE 57872

1. THE FRG WELCOMES THE PROPOSED CONGRESSIONAL VISIT. UNFORTUNATELY, THE PERIOD SELECTED FALLS DURING THE TRADITIONAL GERMAN EASTER HOLIDAYS AND MANY FRG OFFICIALS WILL BE UNAVAILABLE. THE BUNDESTAG WILL BE IN RECESS, THE DEFENSE MINISTER AND HIS STATE SECRETARY WILL BE ON LEAVE, AND THE CHANCELLOR WILL BE UNAVAILABLE.

2. THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF DEFENSE (FMOD) IS ANXIOUS
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TO SHOW THE VISITING CONGRESSMEN A MILITARY EXERCISE
AT MUNSTERLAGER. THIS SITE PROVIDES OPTIMUM OPPORTU-

NITIES FOR SUCH DEMONSTRATIONS. THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE HAS BEEN TENTATIVELY PROPOSED BY THE FMOD AND APPROVED BY THE EMBASSY IN ORDER TO MAKE SUCH A VISIT POSSIBLE. CONGRESSIONAL AIRCRAFT FLIES DIRECT TO MUENSTER FROM VIENNA EARLY ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2. ASSUMING A 10 A.M. ARRIVAL IN MUENSTER, FMOD PROPOSES A HALF DAY'S PROGRAM WITH A FIELD LUNCHEON AT MUNSTERLAGER. THE CONGRESSIONAL AIRCRAFT THEN FLIES TO COLOGNE-BONN AIRPORT. BAGGAGE IS TAKEN TO THE HOTEL AND THE OFFICIAL PARTY DRIVES TO THE EMBASSY FOR A WELCOME BY AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND AND (IF TIME PERMITS) SHORT EMBASSY BRIEFINGS. THE CONGRESSMEN THEN CHECK INTO THEIR HOTEL AND FRESHEN UP. NEXT THE OFFICIAL PARTY IS DRIVEN TO HARDTHOEHE (THE GERMAN PENTAGON) FOR FRG BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSIONS. ADMIRAL ZIMMERMANN, INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL ARMED FORCES, WILL PARTICIPATE ALONG WITH SOME MEMBERS OF THE DEFENSE COMMITTEE OF THE BUNDESTAG. THE PROGRAM WILL BE CONCLUDED BY A COCKTAIL AND BUFFET GIVEN BY THE FMOD AT THE HARDTHOEHE. THE CONGRESSMEN WOULD HAVE NO OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS AFTER 8 P.M. THEY WOULD HAVE AN EARLY MORNING TAKEOFF ON THURSDAY, APRIL 3, TO CONTINUE THEIR TRIP. EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT THEIR AIRCRAFT WILL NOT REPEAT NOT RETURN TO BONN AND THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE OVERNIGHT OF THE THIRD WILL BE ARRANGED BY THE U.S. FORCES.

3. SINCE CONGRESSIONAL AIRCRAFT WILL BE COMING FROM VIENNA, THE EMBASSY INVESTIGATED THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING THE VISIT TO THE U.S. FORCES TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE VISIT TO BONN. HOWEVER, ADMIRAL ZIMMERMANN WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON APRIL 3. THEREFORE, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT THE VISIT TO BONN TAKE PLACE AS SCHEDULED ON THE SECOND.

4. FMOD ADVISES THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE BRITISH FORCES PARTICIPATE IN THE PROPOSED MILITARY EXERCISES AT MUNSTERLAGER SINCE THE BRITISH ARE NOT FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE. WE ARE CONFIRMING THIS WITH THE BRITISH EMBASSY
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IN BONN. IN ANY CASE, LANGUAGE SHOULD NOT BE A SERIOUS BARRIER SINCE MOST SENIOR GERMAN MILITARY OFFICIALS SPEAK EXCELLENT ENGLISH.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: 1) PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER WIVES WILL ACCOMPANY, AND 2) REQUEST APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS ON THE PROGRAM OUTLINED ABOVE URGENTLY.
HILLENBRAND

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